

WE CLAIM:

85. An applicator for use with a laser device housing, comprising:
an applicator body mountable for moving in the housing when at least a minimum amount of pressure is applied to the applicator by contact with a patient's skin to actuate a mechanism in the housing for operation of the laser device; and
an applicator distal end affixed to the body and positionable substantially in a focal plane of the laser device by motion of the body upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
86. The applicator of claim 85, wherein the body is formed to actuate an interlock in the housing for operation of the laser device upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
87. The applicator of claim 85, wherein the body is formed to actuate a spring-loaded interlock in the housing for operation of the laser device upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
88. The applicator of claim 85, wherein the body is formed to actuate a switch in the housing for operation of the laser device upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
89. The applicator of claim 88, wherein the body is formed to actuate a switch for charging capacitors in the laser device.
90. The applicator of claim 85, further comprising:
a preselected amount of pigment disposed on the distal end for marking the patient's skin.
91. The applicator of claim 85, wherein the applicator body is removable from the housing.
92. The applicator of claim 85, wherein the distal end is positionable at a distance from the housing greater than the distance from the housing to the focal plane when less than the minimum amount of pressure is applied thereto.

93. The applicator of claim 85, further comprising:
a hole formed in the distal end for passing through a laser beam focused by the laser device to a focal point in the focal plane.
94. The applicator of claim 93, further comprising:
a preselected amount of pigment disposed on the distal end for marking the patient's skin.
95. The applicator of claim 93, wherein the applicator body is removable from the housing.
96. The applicator of claim 93, wherein the distal end is positionable at a distance from the housing greater than the distance from the housing to the focal plane when less than the minimum amount of pressure is applied thereto.
97. An applicator for use with a laser device housing, comprising:
an applicator body removably mountable for moving in the housing when at least a minimum amount of pressure is applied to the applicator by contact with a patient's skin to actuate a mechanism in the housing for operation of the laser device; and
an applicator distal end affixed to the body and formed with a hole therein for passing through a laser beam focused by the laser device to a focal point in a focal plane, the distal end positionable substantially in the focal plane by motion of the body upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
98. The applicator of claim 97, wherein the body is formed to actuate an interlock in the housing for operation of the laser device upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
99. The applicator of claim 97, wherein the body is formed to actuate a spring-loaded interlock in the housing for operation of the laser device upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.
100. The applicator of claim 97, wherein the body is formed to actuate a switch in the housing for operation of the laser device upon application of at least the minimum amount of pressure.

101. The applicator of claim 100, wherein the body is formed to actuate a switch for charging capacitors in the laser device.

102. The applicator of claim 97, further comprising:
a preselected amount of pigment disposed on the distal end for marking the patient's skin.

103. The applicator of claim 97, wherein the distal end is positionable at a distance from the housing greater than the distance from the housing to the focal plane when less than the minimum amount of pressure is applied thereto.